

# Budget Brief – Utah State Office of Rehabilitation

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

PED BB-10

## SUMMARY

The Utah State Office of Rehabilitation (USOR) operates programs designed to assist disabled individuals prepare for and obtain employment or increase their level of independence. The budget presented in this brief contains the USOR administrative functions and the four USOR operating divisions. USOR provides tailored services focusing on the needs, interests, abilities, and informed choices of the individuals' served. The agency works in conjunction with other community service and resource providers to offer services statewide.

Further information on USOR may be found in chapter 7 of the Compendium of Budget Information (COBI).

## ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Appropriations Committee (EAC) has made base budget allocations to the various appropriations subcommittees. The budget detail table on page 4 does not include funding for the recommendations presented in this brief or other budget priorities the subcommittee may wish to consider.

The co-chairs of the EAC recommend that the subcommittee complete the following tasks: review agency base budgets; reallocate revenue where possible within the base budget to meet new subcommittee budget priorities; and, develop a priority list, to be submitted to the EAC, of new budget priorities not completed through budgetary reallocations.

### Significant Budget Issues

Increased caseload size continues to represent one of the most significant issues facing USOR operating divisions. Changing federal regulations in Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living Services may likely increase the number of individuals requiring services offered through various USOR divisions. The majority of the issues and recommendations identified in this brief, or the corresponding Issue Briefs, attempt to address these caseload issues.

### Issue Briefs

Several Issue Briefs provide the subcommittee with additional information on FY 2007 USOR budget issues. Please refer to these Issue Briefs for additional information on the following topics:

- **USOR 1** – 'Vocational Rehabilitation' provides information on the increased need for transition service counselors, benefits planning counselors, and assistive technology services.

Figure 1: State Board of Education - State Office of Rehabilitation - Budget History

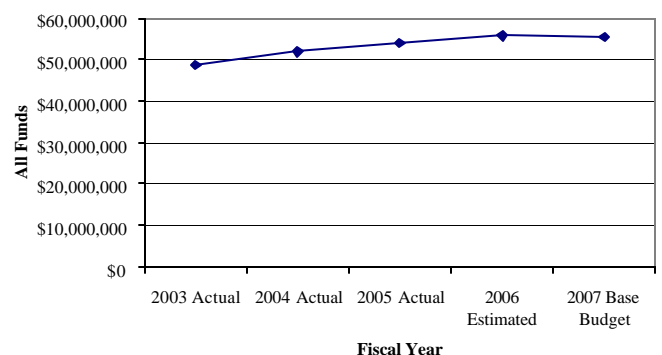


Figure 2: State Board of Education - State Office of Rehabilitation - FTE History

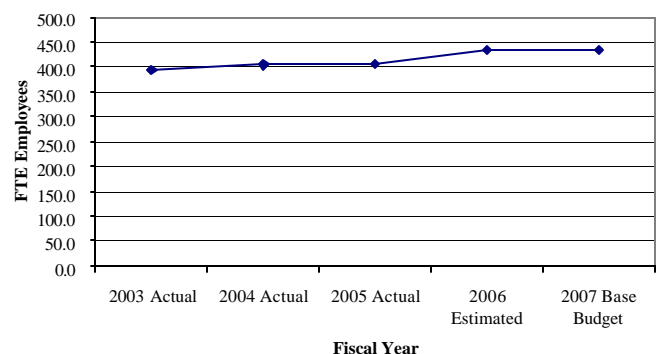
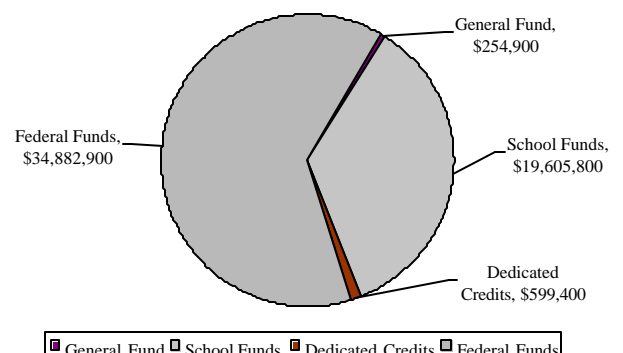


Figure 3: State Board of Education - State Office of Rehabilitation - FY 2007 Funding Mix

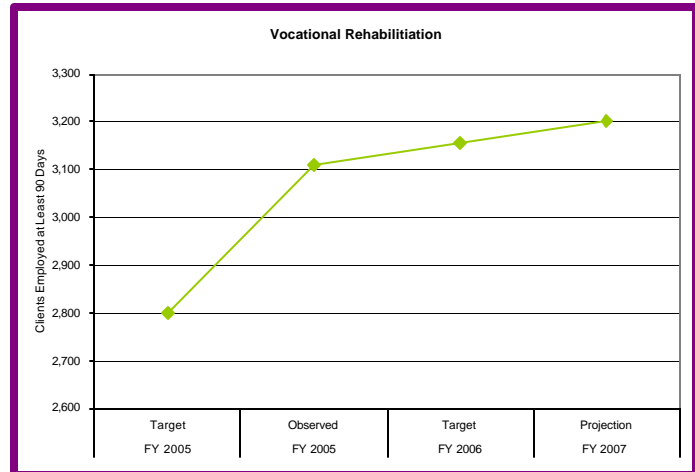


- **USOR 2** – ‘Independent Living Centers’ details nursing home diversion and cost of living adjustments (COLA) for the IL centers.
- **USOR 3** – ‘Community Center for the Deaf’ provides information on improving caseload management for the counselors at the center as well as building operation needs identified by the center.
- **USOR 4** – ‘Blind Services’ details the division’s request to improve rural outreach services in the state.
- **PED 1** – ‘Federal Funds’ provides information on all federal funds received by education agencies.

### ACCOUNTABILITY DETAIL

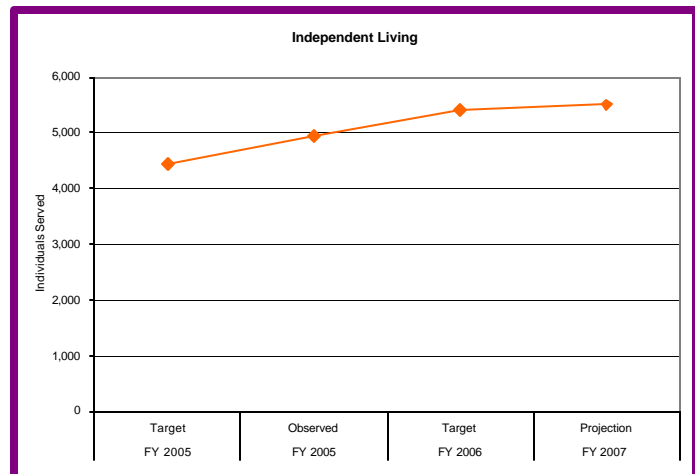
**Rehabilitation Services** – provides services to assist individuals with disabilities prepare for, and obtain employment. Services include counseling and guidance, assistive technology, job training, job placement, and post employment follow-up.

The division uses the number of individuals employed for at least 90 days as a measure of its performance.



**Independent Living** – The goal of Utah’s Independent Living Centers is to increase the independence of individuals with significant disabilities. The centers provide services to reach this goal of independence. All services are time limited and designed to assist consumers increase and maintain their levels of independence and community participation.

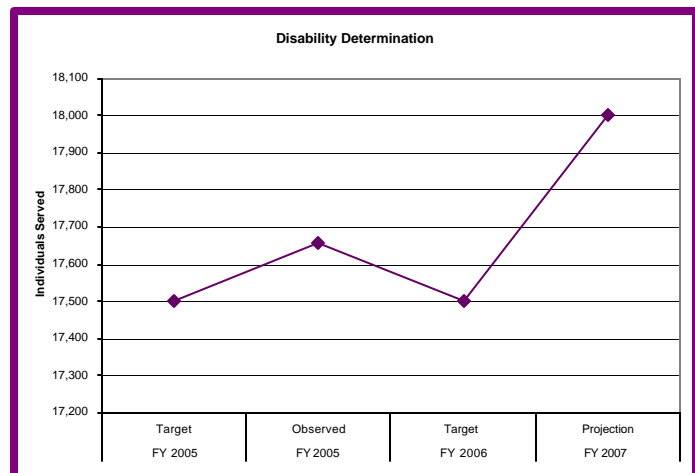
The Independent Living Centers track the number of individuals served as one of their performance measures.



**Disability Determination Services** – adjudicates Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) cases for individuals that apply for disability benefits under the federal Social Security Program.

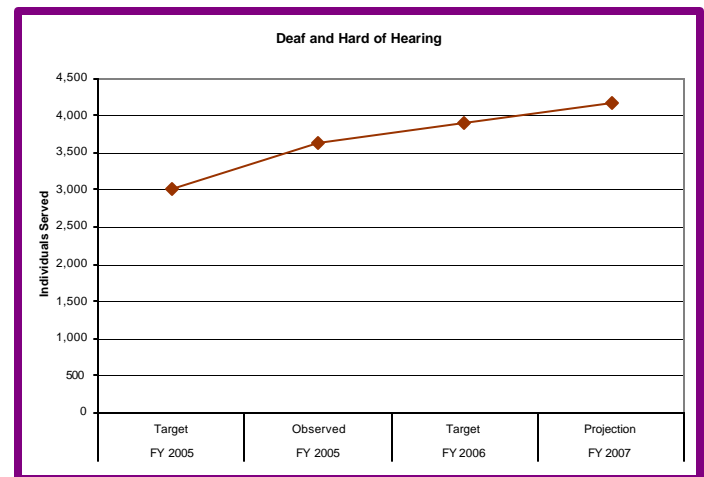
Disability Determination tracks the number of Social Security disability cases adjudicated as one of its annual performance measures.

In FY 2005 to FY 2006, the number of total cases processed by the division will drop slightly because of new Social Security procedural requirements that increase adjudication time. The division is funded almost entirely from federal funds.



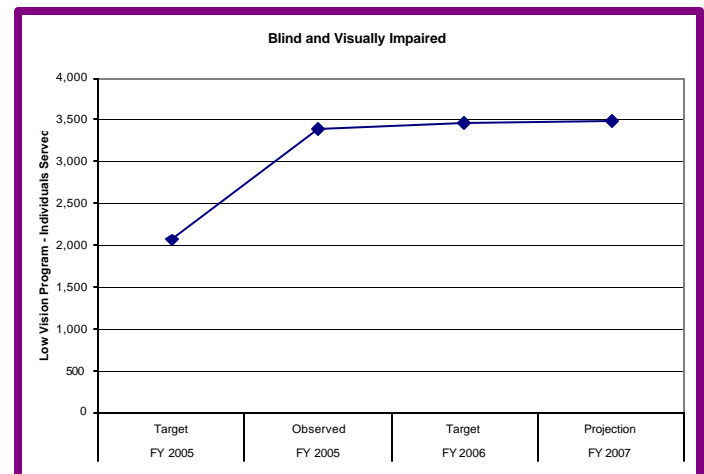
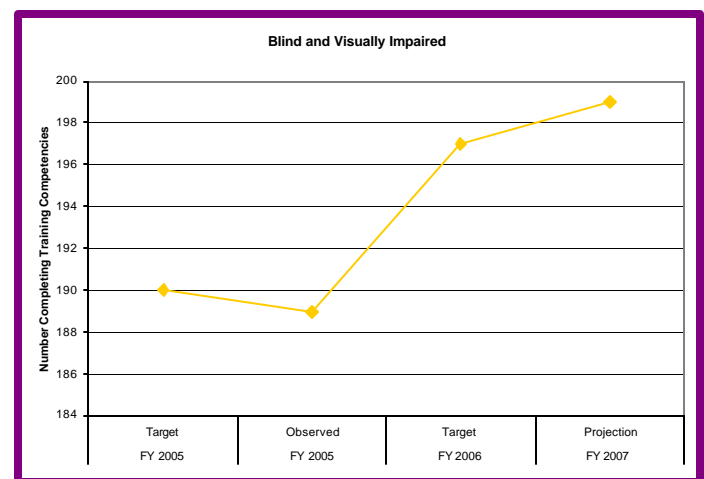
**Deaf and Hard of Hearing** – the division provides educational classes, counseling, assistive technology, information and referral, hard of hearing support services and outreach to individuals with hearing impairments. The division also provides interpreter training and services.

The chart titled “Deaf and Hard of Hearing” tracks the number of individuals served by the Division of Services to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.



**Blind and Visually Impaired** – assists the visually disabled obtain employment and increase their independence. The Division of Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired (DSBVI) provides services such as, orientation and mobility training, low vision services, assistive technology, visual screening, etc.

The charts titled “Blind and Visually Impaired” track the number of individuals that have completed orientation and mobility training competencies, and the number of individuals served by the Low Vision Program.



**BUDGET DETAIL**

The Utah State Office of Rehabilitation receives the majority of its revenue from the federal government. Federal funds represent over 63 percent of the total revenue supporting USOR. The agency also receives a significant portion of its revenue from State Funds – General and Uniform School Fund. State revenue contributes roughly 36 percent of the total budget. The following table details the remaining revenue supporting USOR, as well as, program expenditures and division budgets.

The total budget for the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation totals \$55.3 million.

**BUDGET DETAIL TABLE**

State Board of Education - State Office of Rehabilitation						
Sources of Finance	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Appropriated	Changes	FY 2006 Revised	Changes	FY 2007* Base Budget
General Fund	254,900	254,900	0	254,900	0	254,900
Uniform School Fund	18,996,900	19,605,800	0	19,605,800	0	19,605,800
Uniform School Fund, One-time	128,600	300,000	0	300,000	(300,000)	0
Federal Funds	34,132,300	33,857,200	1,104,000	34,961,200	(78,300)	34,882,900
Dedicated Credits Revenue	441,800	582,500	0	582,500	16,900	599,400
Transfers	0	12,100	(12,100)	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$53,954,500</b>	<b>\$54,612,500</b>	<b>\$1,091,900</b>	<b>\$55,704,400</b>	<b>(\$361,400)</b>	<b>\$55,343,000</b>
<b>Programs</b>						
Executive Director	1,366,500	1,554,400	(52,800)	1,501,600	(1,600)	1,500,000
Blind and Visually Impaired	5,115,900	4,944,200	170,700	5,114,900	(5,000)	5,109,900
Rehabilitation Services	37,939,000	38,714,100	36,500	38,750,600	(332,900)	38,417,700
Disability Determination	7,899,000	7,520,900	784,100	8,305,000	(17,800)	8,287,200
Deaf and Hard of Hearing	1,634,100	1,878,900	153,400	2,032,300	(4,100)	2,028,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$53,954,500</b>	<b>\$54,612,500</b>	<b>\$1,091,900</b>	<b>\$55,704,400</b>	<b>(\$361,400)</b>	<b>\$55,343,000</b>
<b>Categories of Expenditure</b>						
Personal Services	21,545,300	21,949,700	1,372,200	23,321,900	(21,700)	23,300,200
In-State Travel	217,500	187,000	30,500	217,500	0	217,500
Out of State Travel	42,700	37,500	5,200	42,700	0	42,700
Current Expense	4,195,600	3,940,600	254,900	4,195,500	(2,000)	4,193,500
DP Current Expense	658,700	753,500	(94,800)	658,700	0	658,700
DP Capital Outlay	5,000	40,900	(35,900)	5,000	0	5,000
Capital Outlay	57,500	15,600	21,400	37,000	0	37,000
Other Charges/Pass Thru	27,232,200	27,687,700	(461,600)	27,226,100	(337,700)	26,888,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$53,954,500</b>	<b>\$54,612,500</b>	<b>\$1,091,900</b>	<b>\$55,704,400</b>	<b>(\$361,400)</b>	<b>\$55,343,000</b>
<b>Other Data</b>						
Budgeted FTE	406.0	403.0	31.0	434.0	0.0	434.0
Vehicles	41	41	0	41	0	41

\*Does not include amounts in excess of subcommittee's state fund allocation that may be recommended by the Fiscal Analyst.

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**

This section summarizes what actions might be taken if the Legislature wishes to adopt the recommendations presented in this brief. The Analyst recommends that the Legislature consider:

1. Adopt the base budget amount of \$55,343,000 for the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation detailed above.
2. Consider the budget issues raised in the Issue Briefs mentioned in this brief. The subcommittee may wish to include these items in its prioritized recommendations to the executive committee.